

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A composition consisting ~~essentially~~ of a porous substrate impregnated with a permanganate and water, wherein the permanganate is a permanganate salt having a solubility in water greater than that of potassium permanganate, and wherein the concentration of permanganate salt in the composition is ~~at least~~ approximately 8-25% permanganate salt by weight.

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the permanganate salt is selected from the group consisting of sodium permanganate, magnesium permanganate, calcium permanganate, barium permanganate, lithium permanganate, or a combination thereof.

3. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises at least about 13 to about 25% permanganate salt by weight.

4. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises at least about 15 to about 20 % permanganate salt by weight.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Canceled).

7. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the permanganate salt comprises sodium permanganate.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the porous substrate comprises activated alumina, a silica gel, a zeolite, a zeolite-like mineral, kaolin, an adsorbent clay, activated bauxite, or a combination thereof, and wherein the porous substrate is between about 40 and about 80% by weight of the composition.

10. (Original) The composition of claim 9, wherein the zeolite or zeolite-like mineral is selected from amicitite, analcime, pollucite, boggsite, chabazite, edingtonite, faujasite, ferrierite, gobbinsite, harmotome, phillipsite, clinoptilolite, mordenite, mesolite, natrolite, garronite, perialite, barrerite, stilbite, thomsonite, keheite, pahasapaite, tiptopite, hsianghualite, lovdarite, viseite, partheite, prehnite, roggianite, apophyllite, gyrolite, maricopaite, okenite, tacharanite, tobermorite, or a combination thereof.

11-33. (Canceled).